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Worcester.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fourth Annual Report on the health of the Martley Rural District. This report is in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 648.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area 58,879 acres.

Population. Census 1921, 12,471
Estimated 12,540.

The Martley Rural District is a hilly district, the Teme Valley running through the district.

Number of inhabited houses (1921) 2,879.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 2,896.

Rateable value £98,385. Sum represented by a penny rate £303.

The inhabitants of the area are chiefly agricultural workers.

Ordinary farming is done also special farming, namely hop-growing and fruit cultivation.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Total Deaths from all causes 163.

Males 85. Females 78.
Death Rate 13 per 1000 Population.

Total Births 205.

Males 114. Females 91.

Legitimate Males 101. Female 86.
Illegitimate " 13 " 5.
Birth Rate 16.34 per 1000 Population.

Causes of Death. Male. Female.

Whooping Cough	-	1
Influenza	3	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	4	4
Cancer malignant disease	9	9
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	3
Heart Disease	15	15
Arteriosclerosis	11	8
Bronchitis	8	3

Pneumonia (all forms)	3	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	1
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	1	1
Acute & Chronic Nephritis	3	3
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, premature birth.	6	2
Deaths from Violence	6	2
Other defined diseases	12	16
Deaths under) Total	9	6
one year. (Illegitimate	2	1

The Amount of Poor Relief.

The Martley Union is situated at Martley and is fully used, being up to date and having an infirmary accommodation of about 40 beds.

General Hospitals are situated at Kidderminster and Worcester and these are utilized to a great extent.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authorities or by the County Council.

(1) Tuberculosis.

An up-to-date Sanatorium is situated at Knightwick being provided by the County Council.

(2) Maternity.

None provided by Local Authority.

(3) Children.

None provided. There is an open air school at Malvern, where from time to time, school children are sent from the area. The work is carried out by the County Council.

(4) Fever.

No special Hospital is provided for Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria, but arrangements are made with the Worcester, Kidderminster and Malvern Districts whereby cases of these diseases can be moved to, and treated at the before named institutions.

(5) Small Pox.

The Council provides its own Isolation Hospital it being a cottage on Abberley Hill. This is totally unfit and is inadequate for the purposes intended.

Any Institutional Provision for unmarried Mothers,
illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area.

These can be treated and taken care of under the Poor Law at Martley Union.

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) For infectious diseases. Kidderminster district remove cases of Scarlet Fever. Usage is made for other cases by having a car for removal, and this is disinfected afterwards.
- (b) For other infectious and accident cases. Private cars are used and a St. John's Ambulance can be hired from Worcester and Kidderminster at the rate of 1/- per mile both ways.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

No clinics or Treatment Centres are provided in the area. The County Council Authorities visit the schools and inspect the children and County Council Nurses visit Nursing Mothers and Infants. The County Council Authorities also visit Tuberculosis cases in the area.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Part Time Medical Officer of Health.	Dr. A. Sanders Green.
Whole time Sanitary In- spector and Housing Officer.	Mr. F. D. Inskip.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

For infectious Diseases Isolation at home where possible is carried out.

Midwives.

These are supervised by the County Council, there being 33 practising in the area.

Chemical Work.

Bacteriological Examinations for Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Ringworm, Typhoid and Paratyphoid are provided by the County Council. Examination of waters is also done by the County Analyst.

Legislature in Force.

Bye Laws are in force with regard to quarters for hop-pickers. The quarters are inspected before and after arrival of the hop-pickers. The number of inspections made during 1925 was 87. A special report on these was made to the Council on October 30th 1925.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. The chief source of water throughout the district is from deep wells.

The water is on the whole very hard. In very hot weather some of the wells become dry and there is the possibility of a shortage.

Samples of water were taken from Areley Common and Areley Kings in 1924, with a view to obtaining a more satisfactory supply for this rather congested area.

Samples were taken from the Council's public supply at Clifton-on-Teme and this water was found to be still very pure. The supply in the village is constant and is partly from stand-pipes and partly the houses, 41 being supplied.

A few houses in Areley Kings obtain their water from the Stourport Urban District water supply.

Rivers and Streams.

No action taken as no case arose.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Village of North Hallow is provided with an up-to-date system of sewerage, with screen clamper settling tanks and filters, and analysis has shown the effluent to be satisfactory.

The Clifton-on-Teme sewage is disposed of by broad irrigation and as there is a large surface of land available for dealing with the effluent, the result is very satisfactory.

At Upper Wick, St. John's in Bedwardine, there is a small installation with settling tank and filter, the sewage after flowing through these is treated by broad irrigation on a small piece of land.

Throughout the rest of the area the drainage is by means of cess-pits, the contents of which are disposed of on the gardens.

Closet Accommodation.

There are comparatively few water closets in the district, the privy accommodation being chiefly pail closets and privies.

Scavenging.

No scavenging is undertaken in any portion of the district.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Details are given under the head of Housing.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by
the Bye Laws and Regulations.

Hop-pickers' Quarters.

Reference has been made to these and a special report made.

There is one offensive trade, that of gut-scraping which is carried out at Rushwick. Inspections have been made and alterations suggested which have helped considerably.

Schools.

Closures for 1925.

<u>School.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	
Areley Kings.	Mumps	7th January 1925.	
Leigh Sinton	Influenza	23rd February 1925.	
Crown East	Measles & Colds.	2nd February	"
Astley	Mumps	6th February	"
Pensax	Influenza	9th March	"
Little Witley	Influenza	11th March	"
Leigh Sinton	Measles	31st March	"
Grimley	Measles	8th June	"
Hallow (Mixed Infants)	Measles	8th June	"
Areley Kings (Infants)	Measles	7th May	"

Housing.

- I. During the year a new scheme of building was commenced, which, when completed, will enable the Council to condemn as unfit for occupation the houses in the district which are of low standard. Generally, there is not a serious shortage of houses in the Area, and when the above scheme is completed it will meet the demand for houses.

No important change has taken place in the change of population and no great increase is anticipated. 17 houses were erected by private enterprise, 8 of which by state assistance under the Housing Acts.

- II. Overcrowding. This is not present to any large degree. The over-crowding present is due to large families. No action has been taken to combat the over-crowding the building scheme was started.

- III. Fitness of Houses .

(a) The majority of the poorer class houses are below standard. A great number are old, having very small and few rooms and low ceilings. The defects are due chiefly to the houses being old.



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Defects present are I think, due to lack of proper management and supervision by owners.

(b) General action taken as regards unfit houses
See Housing Statistics.

IV. There is no unhealthy part of the Area.

V. Bye Laws Relating to Housing etc.

Building Bye Laws are in force, as also laws for tents, vans and sheds. At present, there is no need for revision.

HOUSING STATISTICS for 1925.

Number of New Houses Erected During the Year:-

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	17
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.	
(i) By the Local Authority	0
(ii) By other bodies or persons	8

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection (1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for house ing defects (under Public Health Housing Acts).....	351
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	247
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	14

2. Remedy of Defects Without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	14
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3. Action Under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	0
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- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
- (a) By owners 0
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0
- (3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 17
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
- (a) By owners 7
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 & 15 of the Housing Act 1925.

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders 0
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made . 0
- (3) Number of Dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit 0
- (4) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0
- (5) Number of dwelling houses, demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. 0

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) Milk is produced throughout the Area. The County Council have charge of the licences for the Classified Milks.
- (b) Meat. Meat inspections have been made by the Sanitary Inspector under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924. Several carcasses of pigs sheep and cattle being condemned on account of Tubercle Dropsy Abscesses and emaciation. Condemned meat is disposed of by either burying it or sending it to the local foxhound kennels. Also under the Order, several butchers' shops

and slaughter houses were improved as regards lighting, ventilation and floors.
There are no public slaughter houses in the Area.

Private Slaughter Houses.

	Jan 1920.	Jan. 1925.	Dec. 1925.
Totals	11	13	13

Other Foods.

The bake houses in the Area are inspected regularly and suggestions for improvement made.

No cases of food poisoning have been notified.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

There has been no exceptional prevalence of any Infectious Disease during the period of survey of the area.

Considering the size of the area, few Notifiable Infectious Diseases occurred. One case of small-pox occurred in 1923. This was isolated at the Council's Isolation Hospital at Abberley. The contacts were observed, but no spread of the disease took place. No return cases of Scarlet Fever occurred although several cases occurred in families. The Council supply free Diphtheria Anti-toxin used in its area, the practitioners obtaining their own supply.

Influenzal epidemics have occurred every winter, necessitating closure of some of the schools. The Sanitary Inspector disinfects after cases of Notifiable Infectious Diseases. Also the premises and utensils are disinfected.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) During the Year 1925.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Sent to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	36	2	
Diphtheria	1		
Enteric Fever	2		
Pneumonia	21		
Encephalitis	1		
Lethargica			
Totals	61	2	

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0				1				
1								
5			1					
10	2	3						
15		4				2		
20	1	1				1		
25	1	1			2			
35								
45	2		1	1	2			
55								
65								
Totals	6	9	2	2	4	3		

Giving Total New Cases 19
Total Deaths 7

The County Council work the Public Health
(Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925
and also provide schemes for treatment and pre-
vention of spread of cases of Tuberculosis.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) A. Sanders Green,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Year Ending December 31st, 1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Martley Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,
 I have pleasure in laying before you my Annual Report of the Sanitary and other work carried out in my Department during the year ending December 31st, 1925.

Infectious Diseases.

No. of cases notified	37
No. of Houses Disinfected etc.	32

Houses.

No. of New Houses Built	17
" " Houses Inspected under the Housing and Towns Planning Act, 1909.	351
" " Houses represented as unfit for Habitation.	3
" " Closing Orders made by the Council	1
" " Houses thoroughly repaired without Closing Orders being asked for	14
" " Yards paved or repaved	7
" " Cases of Overcrowding abated	5

House Drains.

Number laid or relaid	23
" Trapped, Ventilated or repaired	31
" Waste Sink overflows rectified	15
" Urinals on Licenced Premises inspected	19
" of Cesspits rectified	27

Water Closets.

Number of new water closets erected	5
" " Closets repaired	4

Privies and Ashpits.

Number of additional privies provided	14
" " Privies converted into Pail Closets	19
" " " repaired	33

Slaughter-Houses.

Number	inspected	14
"	Cleansed or repaired	5
"	in which repairs were carried out to meet require- ments of New Order.	3

Water Supply.

Number	of Wells sunk	15
"	" " " cleansed or re- paired	8
"	" samples of water sent for analysis	44
"	" new houses for which water Certificates were granted	12

Factories and Workshops.

Number	under supervision	79
"	certified for limewashing	2
"	of insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	4
"	of outworkers' premises inspected	6

Milk Supply.

Number	of Purveyors of Milk	
"	" Dairies on the Register	
"	" Cowsheds repaired or made more satisfactory.	5
	Approximate number of milking cows in district	379

Accumulations of Offensive Refuse.

Number	of removals after notice	4
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Movable Dwellings
Caravans etc.

Number	observed	27
"	dealt with as insanitary	3

Offensive Trades.

Number	under observation	1
"	reported as a nuisance	1

Animals kept so as
to be a Nuisance.

Number	of cases of removal on Notice	2
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Clerical Work etc.

Number of Preliminary Notices served	157
" " Statutory Notices served	9
" " " " complied with	9
" " " " outstanding	None

General Remarks.

I have pleasure in again recording that it has been found unnecessary during the year to take any legal proceedings to get any Sanitary work carried out, and comparatively few Statutory Notices were served.

Where defects were found the Owner or the Agents' attention was called to these by an official letter requesting that the defects might be remedied, and I am pleased to record that these letters have met with a large measure of success.

Infectious Diseases.

All cases have again been visited immediately after their notification, and instructions given to try and prevent the disease from spreading.

Disinfectants have been supplied free of charge and 32 houses have been disinfected after the recovery of the patients etc.

Housing.

During the year the Council commenced upon a new scheme of Housing, which, when completed will in my opinion, meet the demand for houses, and will also enable the Council to condemn as unfit for human habitation several of the houses in the District which are of low standard.

17 new houses were erected during the year by private enterprise, eight of these being State aided by the subsidy.

14 houses were improved and made more habitable, this work being carried out without Closing Orders being asked for, and five cases of overcrowding were abated during the year.

Water Supply.

Samples taken from the Council's Public water supply at Clifton-on-Teme have proved this water to be still pure and wholesome, and the supply is an abundant one.

A total of 44 samples were taken throughout

